

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR.

Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven.—ACTS 1: 11.

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Monday, February 18, 1891.

Price One Penny.

VISIT TO THE YAQUI INDIANS.

III.

THE seaport town of Guaymas is conspicuous for the absence of all modern appliances which are considered indispensable for unloading cargoes of vessels, and transporting goods to the adjacent warehouses. Not a horse, or cart, or barrow, was to be seen on the quay. The *modus operandi* of discharging freight was soon presented before us. Long lines of Yaqui Indian men moved to and fro, between the vessel and the warehouse; some were carrying heavy burdens of two hundred and fifty pounds weight; others were returning, having discharged their loads, but each moving with an easy shuffling pace acquired by long practice. This scene confirmed all that had previously been told respecting these Indians monopolizing this business to the entire exclusion of the citizens. It is said that they fiercely resent every attempt of the Mexicans to introduce machinery which is likely to destroy this industry, bequeathed them by their fathers.

The Yaqui Indians were never conquered by the Spanish invaders, who overran the country and subjected the natives to their iron rule. The Mexicans have been hardly more successful than the Spaniards, each attempt to conquer them proving disastrous to their armies. The Yaquis are the hewers of wood and drawers of water for the inhabitants of Sonora, and are willing to perform hard labor for a mere pittance. While these two parties hate and fear each other, the Mexican is unwilling to dispense with the services of the stalwart aborigines. Just previous to the time of our visit, the Yaquis had spent most of their earnings in the purchase of improved firearms and in ammunition, which they deemed most desirable in view of approaching complications.

In conversation with the United States consul, Mr. Willard, he remarked that a projected visit of his to the Yaquis, some time before, was prohibited by the military commander of the district. The consul was the only man with whom we conversed who believed we could make a visit to that people without peril to life or property.

Elder McDonald carefully selected a boat from a number of others, suitable to our purpose, chartered it, and engaged the services of two Yaqui sailors to convey us to Potan, Cajeme's headquarters, located on the Yaqui river, sixty miles distant from Guaymas. To reach it we had to sail across a portion of the Sea of Cortez, or Gulf of California.

The capitan of the port of Guaymas warned us through my interpreter on two occasions. He said, "Gentlemen, I perceive you are strangers, and I understand you contemplate making a voyage to the Yaqui river. I cannot permit you to leave this port ignorant of the peril you incur if you attempt to visit Cajeme and his people. If you escape with your lives, the least you can expect is to be robbed of your property and be thrust naked out of their country." I thanked him for his courtesy, but declined to abandon the voyage. The Maricopa Indian Valenzuela, who accompanied me, was thoroughly demoralized and declined to enter the boat. When asked what he was afraid of, he said, "The Yaquis will hang me on a tree and then cut my throat." If we had any fear for our personal safety it was effectually dispelled when Valenzuela expressed himself as quite sure we could visit the Yaquis and return in perfect safety, but said he, "If I go I shall never return."

Quite a crowd of dirty Mexicans assembled on the quay to see us off. They hooted and jeered at our small party, as a mild breeze wafted us gently upon our way to the Yaqui country. Night came on and we anchored under the lee of a small island about four miles out. There we remained until 1 a.m., when, with a strong wind from a favorable quarter, we sailed out into open sea. We proceeded several miles, when the wind changed to dead ahead—an event entirely unlooked for. The Yaqui sailors informed us that a heavy storm was approaching from the east, and that we must seek shelter immediately. It was quite difficult to turn in the wild, choppy sea, which ran high and threatened to fill our open boat as we wore around to a backward course. We again cast anchor under the shelter of the island, and passed an uncomfortable night. The storm would have sent such a craft as ours to the bottom had we been exposed to it in the open sea.

The gale was terrific during the night. Towards morning the rain descended in torrents; blankets and clothing were soon saturated, and general discomfort prevailed. In a council called during the day, I asked the brethren to tell me their feelings in relation to continuing our journey to the Yaquis. I did not wish to take the entire responsibility on myself in case we encountered danger or met with disaster. Several of them exclaimed in a breath, "Why, we have been praying that you might know just what to do." My answer was, "Brethren, I have but one desire in my breast, and that is to carry to the Yaqui people a knowledge of the Book of Mormon." My brethren were unanimous in the desire to

follow where the Spirit led me, and we felt that, with the blessing of God, we should accomplish the object of our mission.

The Yaqui lady of whom we chartered the vessel had agreed to provide cooking utensils and fuel. Elder Ray, purveyor for the party, purchased flour and some other provisions, the principal article of food for all hands being a large dried fish, which would weigh about forty pounds. This was frequently used by the sailors as a seat; therefore as an article of diet the fish was condemned by most of our party.

In the forward part of the vessel was placed a deal box about two feet square, and five inches deep. It was filled with soil, and upon this was placed three stones; on these were laid a piece of old sheet iron about eight inches square; beneath this plate was lighted a wood fire, which completed the arrangement for baking and frying. On the rusty surface of this iron, Mexican tortillas were baked or burned, as it happened; in the main they were leathery and indigestible to the white men. The dusky natives, however, devoured them with a relish seldom experienced in civilized communities. Hunger drove some of our party to swallow a few sections of this Mexican bread, but their stomachs refused to retain the unwelcome morsels. Pylorus resolutely put up the shutters and declined to pass the undigested bits, which soon came back and passed over the side of the vessel to feed fish in the gulf. My condition of health made it impossible for me to partake of the boiled fish, or the sodden bread prepared by the Yaqui cooks.

The morning of the 8th of December brought little comfort to our storm bound party. In the east, directly over our path, the clouds hung black as night. Under this mass shone a strip of clear blue sky, but fair weather appeared to be far distant. At daylight we observed a portion of the dark clouds descend to the water in shape of a funnel. This revolved with great rapidity, apparently, and drew water up to a great height, and with a force which would have endangered the safety of the strongest vessel had it come within reach. Two more of these immense waterspouts followed the first. The third one was much less than the first two in power and dimensions. These natural phenomena were new to our voyagers, though we had read of such things. We now comprehended that reading only gave us but a vague conception of the reality.

These waterspouts rushed northward with a velocity which appeared equal to that of the swiftest express train, leaving a clear sky and a strong wind coming from the southwest. This enabled us to make a run of eighteen miles. The gale increased and the sea became so boisterous that we were glad to deviate from our course, and run under the lee of Lion Mountain, a peninsula which afforded us shelter. There we found good anchorage, and also three Yaquis with a larger boat than our own, storm bound.

We passed another miserable night on board a Yaqui boat, which had not a soft plank in it to lie upon, though all were apparently old and rotten. Perhaps I was not in a proper condition to be a competent judge of our many comforts. I could neither sit, lie, nor stand, with any degree of ease. Six of Job's comforters were on my left side, a large burn on my

right hip, together with distracting pains in the back of my head and neck, in my kidneys, and down the back part of each leg. Indeed this proved to be one of the very few unhappy periods which have occurred in my experience.

Our little vessel was of a beautiful model, about thirty feet long, nine feet beam, and three and a half feet deep, buoyant, and a swift sailer; her sails and ropes were old and worn, and she could not live through a heavy storm at sea, such as swept over us that night. The wind blew a gale from the south, and was accompanied by frequent showers of rain.

Late next morning the wind shifted to a more favorable quarter, and for twenty or thirty miles our boat sailed pleasantly along towards the mouth of the Yaqui river, which is in a southerly direction from Lion Mountain. About 1 p.m. the wind veered to the south, and soon increased to a gale. It was impossible to reach the mouth of the river in the face of such a storm. The waves ran high, and our boat was shipping quantities of water, which we found to be of a much warmer temperature than the atmosphere. The sailors were anxious to turn in to land, and informed us of a lagoon some miles distant which they believed it possible for us to reach. With care they thought we might be able to pass the breakers in safety. This in fact was the only course we could pursue, unless we returned to Lion Mountain. Even then there would be danger to make so long a run with such a sea.

As it was not possible for us to continue safely on our course, we headed direct for the low line of coast barely visible in the misty distance eastward. As we neared the shore one of the sailors climbed the mast and directed the course of the vessel. It was well done, and fortunately our little craft was steered exactly into the tortuous channel of deep water. The waves on either side curled high above us, and broke with a loud roar upon the submerged bar. In a few moments our boat shot safely through the line of breakers, into a quiet lagoon, where the surface of the water was scarcely ruffled by the storm outside.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

WELSH CONFERENCE.

MINUTES of Conference held in the Gwaelod y Garth, Merthyr Tydfil Wales, Sunday, Jan. 25, 1891. The following Elders were present: Apostle Brigham Young, President of the European Mission; C. W. Symons, President of, and Thomas H. Clark, Traveling Elder in the Bristol Conference; Alma M. Mathews, President of, and William D. Leigh, E. T. Parry, Evan S. Morgan, D. J. Davis, John T. Evans, William Thomas, John Gibby and John D. Williams, Traveling Elders in the Welsh Conference, and Watkin Rees, of Adamsville, Utah.

10:30 a.m. Singing. Prayer by Elder Leigh. Singing.

President Mathews said he felt grateful to meet in the capacity of a conference under such favorable circumstances. They met to receive that spiritual food which is necessary to partake of from time to time. The plan of salvation is laid in plainness before all. There is nothing

mysterious in the work in which the Saints are engaged. The nearer men live to the Lord, the more of His Spirit do they receive.

Elders Williams, Gibby and Thomas spoke on the principles of the Gospel, and testified to the reorganization on earth of the Church of Christ.

President Young said the testimony of the Gospel was necessary for the Saints, and they should place it before the people. If they are diligent and faithful, they will receive the reward that is laid up for the righteous. It is the duty of all to be perfect in their spheres, as God is perfect in His sphere. The Latter-day Saints are not despised in heaven. They have plenty of friends behind the veil. Wherever their lot is cast, God is there to watch over and guide them. They have received the light of the glorious Gospel and feel a new life in them. The world are against them, and are trying to put them down. They would be able to do so, if it were not for the providence of God over His people. It is incumbent upon those who have received the Gospel to live as becomes Latter-day Saints. The man who is half hearted in the work of God is not fit for anything. Those who devote their all to the kingdom of God will receive a fulness of salvation.

Singing. Benediction by Elder Morgan.

2:30 p.m. Singing. Prayer by Brother George Adams. Singing. The Sacrament was administered by Elders Leigh and Williams.

Elders Evans, Davis, Morgan, Rees, Parry and Leigh testified that the Gospel is true; that the Church of Jesus Christ has been established in these the last days; and that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God, called and ordained an Apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The names of the general and local authorities of the Church were then presented and sustained.

The statistical report for the year ending Dec. 31, 1890, was read by President Mathews, as follows: High Priests, 3; Seventies, 5; Elders, 44; Priests, 4; Teachers, 2; Deacons, 4; members, 98; officers and members, 160; baptized, 2; emigrated 23; under eight years, 4; received 6; removed, 1; died, 2; also the report of the labors of the Elders, showing the following: Tracts distributed, 49,783; Books of Mormon sold, 91; Voice of Warning, 573; other Church works, 15; meetings held with the Saints, 372; outdoor meetings, 24.

The financial report for the year ending Dec. 31, 1890, was read and accepted.

President Young said he never tired of hearing the testimonies of his brethren and sisters. It is those who have been faithful, the staunch ones, that are the bone, sinew and wealth of the Saints. The Gospel is the power of salvation to all that believe. It is not by just entering into the door that salvation is obtained. It takes in the whole of life. The Holy Spirit is given to guide us to all truth, for "surely the Lord God doeth nothing but he revealeth His secret to His servants the Prophets." A man stands in the same relation to his family as the leader of the Church does to the people, and should receive revelations for the guidance of himself and family. Those who have cultivated the Spirit of the

Lord and given heed to its whisperings, will stand in the great day of trial.

Singing. Benediction by Brother James Watts.

6 p.m. Singing. Prayer by Elder Williams. Singing.

Elders Clark and Symons said the Gospel gives joy and peace, and brought comfort to their souls. They were thankful to be Latter-day Saints, although this is not popular with the world. They bore a strong testimony to the truth of the Gospel, which the Latter-day Saints had received from heaven.

President Young spoke on the first principles of the Gospel, and particularly upon baptism for the living and the dead. Some had asked the question, "Why cannot the Saints live their religion as well in this land as in Utah?" Let them obey the first principles of the Gospel, and then they will be able to learn from the Lord what course to pursue. In speaking of the principle of tithing, he said if the Saints here could see the beautiful Temples in Utah, they would realize why tithing is paid. The Saints believe that the coming of Christ is near at hand, and it is obligatory upon them to warn the people. They are preparing a place for peace, so that when anarchy, war, bloodshed and turmoil are poured out upon the earth, he that will not take up the sword can flee to that place for safety. The time will come when the people will look for a man to tell them how to get out of Babylon, but an Elder will not be found among them. He closed by invoking the blessing of God to rest upon all the honest in heart.

Singing. Benediction by President Young.

On Saturday evening, the 24th inst., a Priesthood meeting was held, in which the Elders gave a report of their labors since the last Conference. This showed that they had worked with commendable zeal and energy to get the principles of the Gospel before the people, and did not feel in any way discouraged, although they met with little success in finding those who were desirous of investigating the truths of the Gospel. After hearing the reports, President Young addressed the meeting, imparting words of instruction and encouragement.

E. T. PARRY, Clerk.

FACTS AND EVENTS.

Failure of crops in a portion of India is reported, and there are apprehensions of famine.

An orphan asylum at Moscow, Russia, has been burned down, nine of the inmates perishing.

The cost of the recent campaign in the United States against the Indians is stated to be \$2,000,000.

Dr. Kitasato, a Japanese physician now in Berlin, claims to have discovered a remedy for tetanus, or lockjaw.

On Feb. 4th a coal mine at Jeansville, Pennsylvania, was deluged with water through the bursting of a shaft, and nineteen men were drowned.

An aged miner named Benjamin Davies, residing at Mountain Ash, South Wales, has fallen heir to an estate, valued at £20,000, through the death of his wife's sister in America.

The Cunard Company has placed in the hands of Clyde shipbuilders specifications for two new steamers, which are expected to surpass all existing Atlantic racers both in size and speed.

A destructive earthquake has occurred in Java. In the town of Joana great damage was done, the Chinese quarter being completely wrecked. Twelve persons were killed and others injured.

It is stated that the effect of the McKinley tariff bill on the exports of Sheffield cutlery to America has been to reduce the value from £15,415 in January, 1890, to £8,331 in January, 1891.

Messrs. Dillon and O'Brien, the two Irish members of Parliament who were sentenced to six months' imprisonment for their connection with the agitation in Ireland, but who escaped to America, arrived at Folkestone from France on Feb. 12, and surrendered to the police. They were taken to Ireland on the 13th, and placed in prison.

VIENNA, Feb. 11.—According to a private but trustworthy report received in Vienna, all the Jewish residents of Novgorod, numbering 617, and belonging to the commercial class, have been expelled from that town. Also notice to quit has been given to 94 Jewish families who had lived for many years past in the rural districts of Novgorod.

A portion of the garrison of Oporto, Portugal, revolted on Jan. 31, but failed to carry with them any of the inhabitants. The object was the establishment of a republic, and some fighting occurred in the streets between the rebels and the loyal troops. The revolt was suppressed in the course of the day. The number of killed and wounded is estimated at from twenty to fifty.

NEW YORK, Feb. 3.—The Pittsburg correspondent of the *Sun* states that the beginning of the month finds the prices of almost all kinds of iron nearly at the lowest point ever touched. With the southern competition increasing, and the general supply in excess of the demand, in pig-iron and steel rails especially great depression prevails. The production of the latter has been reduced largely in the past six weeks, but it is still too large for the present prospective demand. The miners' strike is beginning to cause a coal famine at the Pittsburg mills.

Chicago is in a quandary over the great World's Fair. The finance committee report that the exposition will cost \$15,000,000, and the probable receipts are estimated at \$10,000,000. Looking at the prospects from the best possible point of view, only \$10,000,000 will be available before May, 1893, and the directors do not know where to get the additional money that will be required to carry out the exhibition in the form originally contemplated. It is suggested that in order to meet the financial difficulty, a bond for the gate receipts should be obtained for \$5,000,000.

The Foreign Affairs Committee of the United States House of Representatives, on Feb. 5, agreed to a resolution setting forth that the House had heard with profound sorrow of the sufferings of the Jews in Russia—a sorrow intensified by the fact of the persecution happening in a country long the friend of the United States, and which emancipated its serfs and defended the Christians in the East against religious persecution. The resolution states that the House earnestly hopes that the enlightened spirit then shown by the Czar may be now manifested for the mitigation of the severe measures against the Jews.

An important statement has just been laid before the executive government of Ireland by Mr. Thomas Mackenzie Ledlie on the subject of ether-drinking in Ireland. Mr. Mackenzie Ledlie, who has given the subject matter the most careful consideration, and has made an extensive tour in the ether-drinking districts, gives some startling facts in connection with this practice. He calculates that 17,000 gallons of impure ether of the vilest form is annually consumed by the people in the districts situate in the counties of Derry and Tyrone, as well as in parts of Armagh, Monaghan, and Fermanagh. No fewer than 100,000 people, who are spread over an area of 190,000 acres, indulge in this baneful habit.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1891.

THE TESTIMONY OF THE LORD'S SERVANTS.

To those who have been sent forth in this generation to deliver the Gospel message to the inhabitants of the earth, the Lord has said: "For thou art called to prune my vineyard with a mighty pruning, yea, even for the last time," and the Elders of Israel who have the spirit of their calling feel the great responsibility that rests upon them to be diligent in warning the people and in testifying of the restoration of the divine plan of salvation. It is true that in their labors they meet with trials which, were it not for the witness they have of the divinity of their calling, would cause them to direct their attention to other matters.

Separated from their families, traveling among strangers, the majority of whom look contemptuously upon them, deprived of the comforts of home, and bearing their own expenses, many of them from a not over abundant supply, their lot, from a secular point of view, is far from pleasing to contemplate. But the feelings and conditions of the Elders cannot be judged by the standard of worldly-minded persons, for the missionaries are operating upon a more exalted plane. They must be weighed in other balances if their situation is to be fully comprehended; for they are actuated by the higher and spiritual motives, and exist in a state harmonious therewith.

When traveling in foreign lands, they feel as deeply as men can the deprivations, hardships, and adversities they have to encounter. But they are blessed with a courage and fortitude which enable them to rise above these things. Their love of home and its treasures is not lessened, nor the sensitiveness of their natures blunted by their experiences and circumstances; rather are they intensified and developed. But with all this, the servants of the Lord bear witness, when their duty has been performed, that the time they have been spent in the missionary field has been the most pleasant and profitable period of their lives; the more humble, faithful and energetic they have been, the greater is the joy they have felt.

To those who have operated in this sphere, there is no doubt as to the Source from whence comes the peace and intelligence that bring this happiness, and cause the desire to proclaim the glorious Gospel message to absorb all other emotions, and become the primal object of every

thought and deed. The feeling that permeates their beings is not the enthusiasm which accompanies those who are zealous in what they believe, no matter how firmly, to be right; it is the inspiration and power which attend a knowledge of having been commissioned of the Lord Jesus Christ; it is the calm, progressive and irresistible faith of those who know that they possess and exercise divine authority. The faith, hope and love which fill their souls are the precious gifts of the Spirit of God.

It may appear at times to a casual observer that the labors of the Elders bring but small results, because in many places few converts are made, and a comparatively limited number of people give heed to the Gospel message. But to one who understands the forces at work in connection with the testimony of a disciple of the Lord Jesus in this age, these affects are more far-reaching. This testimony is not confined to one direction in its operation. Its results are manifest in two ways. It is a savor of life to those who receive and profit by it, and a savor of death unto those who reject it. "But if they receive thee not, I will send upon them a cursing instead of a blessing," says the Lord.

The fact that among the Gentile nations there are few who will give heed to the everlasting Gospel, which has been restored to earth by an angel from heaven, is by no means a cause of discouragement for those to whom are entrusted the keys of preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom. It is an indication that the people have turned to ungodliness. The Elders wish that, for their own welfare, men and women would listen to and embrace the truth. But they have their free agency, and make their own choice; they must abide the result. In the days of Noah, the world would not believe his testimony concerning the coming deluge, but their unbelief did not stay the waters. Noah and his family were steadfast in their faith, and were saved.

The rejection of the testimony of the servants of God by many in the Gentile nations to-day is a fulfilment of prophecy, and is one of the most notable signs of the latter times. It is an incontrovertible witness of the near approach of the hour of God's judgment upon the world. For after the testimony of His servants will come the testimony of His wrath, shown in the thunderings and the lightnings, the earthquakes, pestilences and famines, and commotions in the heavens and on earth.

God commanded His servants who were called to go to the nations of the earth: "Lift up your voices and spare not. Call upon the nations to repent, both old and young, both bond and free, saying, Prepare yourselves for the great day of the Lord; for if I, who am a man, do lift up my voice and call upon you to repent, and ye hate me, what will ye say when the day cometh when the thunders shall utter their voices from the ends of the earth, speaking in the ears of all that live, saying, Repent, and prepare for the great day of the Lord; yea, and again, when the lightnings shall streak forth from the east unto the west, and shall utter forth their voices unto all that live, and make the ears of all tingle that hear, saying these words, Repent ye, for the great day of the Lord is come."

The Elders have lifted up their voices and spared not. They have gone to every nation whithersoever they could, and where they could not

go they have sent. They have proclaimed the Gospel to the Gentile nations so far as it has been in their power. Those nations have not given that heed to the message which their own welfare required, but have rejected the counsel of God against themselves. The fulness of the times of the Gentiles is about come in, when the Gospel message will be carried to the house of Israel. Associated with that event is the pouring out of the vials of God's wrath upon Babylon. Those Elders who have borne a faithful testimony have cleansed their garments of the blood of this generation. They have performed their duty and will receive the blessing, and their hearts are full of praise and thankfulness to God for the strength and inspiration He has given them in their humility and integrity. The result of their labors among men is with Him, and in the future, as well as in the past and present, they acknowledge His hand in all things.

J. H. A.

By an error last week, the appointment of Elder W. G. Bickley was stated to be to the Welsh Conference. It should have been the Manchester Conference.

PRESIDENTS of Conferences may obtain copies of the "Proclamation to the People," just issued, for distribution, if they will send in orders at once.

ABSTRACT OF CORRESPONDENCE.

ELDER A. F. McDONALD, writing from the City of Mexico under date of January 17, says: I am here to obtain a contract and concessions in favor of the Mexican Colonization and Agricultural Company, and its recognition by executive permit to hold title to the lands of Colonia Diaz within the prohibited zone; also the free importation of colonists from all parts to our colonies in Chihuahua or elsewhere, as we may locate them. On the 14th inst. we had a most agreeable interview with Minister Pacheco on the subject. He is a wonderful person, with keen intelligence, rare executive ability, and marked force of character. I regret to say that Minister Mariscal's health is not good at present, but it is hoped he will improve. President Diaz is out in the country for a few days. We expect to meet him and Minister Mariscal next week, and hope to be successful in our object. I am assured that our work of colonizing Chihuahua is much appreciated by the government.

We have arranged for the Huller lands on the east side of the river, opposite Casas Grandes, and have laid out another town, to be called Colonia Huller. Some of the brethren are buying farming lands higher up on the river, from the Mexicans. Quite a number of families have come in since you were here, and we keep on increasing steadily.

This city has made some good improvements since I was here last. They are laying a first-class home-made pavement, which is expected to meet the evil effect of the under water and damp. But with all that is done, the death rate of the City of Mexico is very high, and there are but slight prospects for the improvement of the health of the people.

Elsewhere in this valley and district the climate is beautiful and healthy. The flowers are now in bloom, and the trees in leaf, while north at the colonies we had cold weather and snow when I left. As I came southward, passing Zacatecas and Aguas Calientes, the climate was changed, there being pleasant sunshine every day.

There is no plundering here, like the United States confiscation of property of the Saints. Thus far we are prosperous in our colonies, and the rulers of the country treat us thoughtfully and kindly. They seek to meet our needs, and remove any cause of complaint.

The rains of last fall gave us an ample supply of good hay and grass, but in the mountains the continuous rains injured the crops, especially potatoes, at Corales. The McKinley bill has improved the market a little, by this government fixing a frontier retaliatory tariff.

THE WORK IN TURKEY.

AINTAB, Turkey, Dec. 11, 1890.

President Brigham Young:

Dear Brother.—As the year is drawing to a close, I think it proper to give a short account of our labors in the Turkish Mission. During the first part of the year we suffered loss by the death of Elder E. D. Simmons. The release of some of the other Elders left this and the Palestine branches without missionaries for a time, consequently the work did not progress as it otherwise might have done. I was in the Sivas branch during the first eight months, and though I labored to the best of my ability in connection with the local Elders, I was unable to make many converts, baptizing only two members into the Church. Still, at the time of my departure there was quite a number making earnest investigation, whom I left to the care of the local Elders. Since I left I have been unable to receive any news from that part. Of the Palestine branch I have not been informed thoroughly.

After the death of Elder Simmons and the departure of his companion, Brother Deiterlie, this branch was left without Elders, there being only two members, one of whom was ordained to the office of a Teacher. He was diligent in teaching the principles of the Gospel to as many as would hear his testimony, and during the summer succeeded in converting two or three, who, notwithstanding they had not been baptized (there being no one here holding authority to officiate in that ordinance), assisted him in his labors until they had aroused one or two more to a sense of their surroundings. According to the request of the Presidency, I came to this branch to officiate in some ordinations and baptisms, arriving here on the 24th of October. On November 4 I ordained Brother Vizerian an Elder, and he baptized two members on the evening of the same day (as mentioned in a former letter). Since that time, by means of our Sunday meetings and every day conversations and teachings, we have been enabled to convince many of the truth of the Gospel.

Our enemies, the sectarian churches, or rather their ministers, have made great efforts to destroy our work. We had several debates with

one of the leading ministers of the Congregationalist Church, the last of which took place at our room on Monday evening of last week. On account of our small room, a large congregation gathered in the yard, where, by opening the doors and windows of the room, they could quite easily hear. Our subject was "The apostasy of the primitive Church, and the restoration in latter times by the Prophet Joseph Smith." Our discussion of three hours seemed to have a good effect. The congregation of nearly two hundred people listened attentively, and many of them have come since to make special investigations. Five of those we baptized into the Church a few days afterward. There are five or six others whom we expect to be added to the fold by baptism before the New Year. Such has been the progress of the work in this branch during the last two months. We have great hope that God will yet call many more unto His fold, because it seems that the good seed of truth has taken root in the hearts of many.

There are other cities in this district in which we have every reason to believe that the work of the Lord would advance in as well as here, if there were but sowers and harvesters to labor in the season thereof. We are all earnestly praying that God may give us some good laborers to assist in this great work. There are many people anxious to hear the Gospel in various cities, as I learned by traveling a short time ago. There are also many honest people who are earnestly seeking after truth, but frequently they are slow to understand, and require special labor. It is about as difficult to learn the character of the people as it is to learn their language, hence the wisdom of using the local Elders in the ministry. There is a great deal of faith manifested by our brethren here, and all are diligent in teaching daily; thus the work is making progress in spite of all our disadvantages. The Saints pay tithing of all their earnings weekly, though they are not great. They have accumulated about £1 10s. to the present time.

I have written twice since my arrival here, giving a more full account of our circumstances in this mission. We are anxiously looking for some assistance in regard to the subjects mentioned in the previous letters. The Saints are all well and enjoying their labors in trying to live new lives, and join me in love to yourself and Saints in the British Mission.

Yours truly,

FRED. STAUFFER.

THEY DO NOT WANT THE TRUTH.

A FEW weeks ago a letter was addressed to a lady, residing in Salt Lake City, who is thoroughly qualified for the task, requesting her to write a series of articles for an eastern journal, the publisher of which offered liberal terms for the work. She responded and expressed her willingness to do what was desired. But she made known her connection with the "Mormon" faith, and a change came over the mind of the publisher. The next letter brought different tidings. The writer said:

I was, strange to say, not aware of your position on the Mormon question. It would hardly be wise to run a series of articles on Mormonism

from your point of argument. No matter how strong and true your doctrines might be, the people of the United States would condemn us for giving them place in our columns. You possibly know, as well as we do, that people are hard to reason with. What the —— desires is to publish a series of four articles, four columns each, with illustrations on Mormonism as it is at present. You might be prejudiced, so I have decided to have the articles written up by a newspaper man of our own city and staff.

This is a frank statement of the position occupied by publishers and journalists. They want articles on "Mormonism," but they do not want them truthful. "No matter how strong and true" a candid statement might be, it would not do for the columns of a paper that wants "a series of articles on Mormonism as it is at present." Why? Because the publishers are afraid it would not suit the people. Money being the object, something must be made up to catch the popular taste, no matter how false and puerile the stuff may be.

What a spectacle this publisher makes of himself in this amusing correspondence! He wants articles on "Mormonism" as it is, and applies, as he supposes, to an anti-"Mormon," who would be sure to present "Mormonism" as it is not. Discovering that the lady is a "Mormon" and able and willing to describe "Mormonism as it really is at present," he declines to receive what he pretended to want, for fear she might be "prejudiced." And in order to get the information straight, he determines to employ a newspaper man who knows nothing of the subject, and who will have to manufacture something to fill the demand out of the unreliable and prejudiced material sent forth to deceive the world!

This is how "Mormonism" as it isn't, and "Mormonism" as it never was, has been dealt out to the public. It is because of this that both the writers for the press, and the people who read their effusions, are so densely ignorant on the "Mormon" question. They do not appear to want to know the truth.

Literary men and women who come to Utah professedly to study "Mormonism" on the spot, usually consort with the bitterest anti-"Mormons," persons steeped in the gall of bitterness and bound with the bonds of bigotry and intolerance, whose very breath is hate and whose spirit is the essence of spite and malignity. Of course, the "Mormonism" they write up under such influences is the same old monstrous distortion which has been held up as a bugaboo for half a century, with a few new wrinkles and another daub or two of gairish paint.

If they apply to the only source from which correct information is likely, in the very nature of things, to be obtained, it is not usually for the purpose of getting at and reproducing the facts, but of being able to say they have talked with persons advocating both sides of the question, so that they may appear to be without bias.

"Mormonism as it is" can never be presented to the public except by "Mormon" advocates. Its opponents do not fairly explain its doctrines nor truthfully state its position. Their blows are directed against a dummy of their own manufacture, their arguments against ideas of their own invention.

We think that even the money-grubbing publishers, as well as the "enterprising" editors of the country, make an egregious mistake in this continual pandering to public prejudice, and this perpetual repetition of anti-"Mormon" falsehood. They should give their readers something new. Why not deal out a little truth on the "Mormon" question? It would have the attraction of novelty. It might pay better than the stale trash in common use, for each sensation that is worked up on this subject is but an old rumor in a new garb, and the reading public are getting very familiar with it all.

Publishers who prefer employing "some newspaper man on their own staff" in writing up "Mormonism as it is" to a person who understands the subject and would give a "true and strong" presentation of the facts, merely travel in the old time-worn ruts, and have no conception of the true purposes of journalism. They prostitute the power for good placed in their hands, and they occupy no higher moral plane than the dealer in counterfeit coin, or other trader on the ignorance and folly of mankind.—*Deseret News*.

UTAH NEWS.

**(Summarized from Territorial papers.)*

On Jan. 19 a farmers' union was organized at Logan.

Six of the young men of Payson have been called on a mission to Great Britain.

The Barnes Banking Company have opened a bank at Kaysville, Davis County.

Mr. A. C. Bishop, of Ogden, has been appointed probate judge of Weber County.

The electric street railway between Salt Lake City and Fort Douglas has been completed.

The funeral of Mrs. Lucy Decker Young took place in Salt Lake City on Sunday, Jan. 25.

The Salt Lake Choral Society is preparing a programme for a grand May musical festival.

The *Eastern Utah Telegraph* is the name of a newspaper started at Price, Emery County.

The Payson Creamery and Canning Company has been organized with a capital stock of \$100,000.

The Union Pacific Railway will resume work in March on the extension westward from Milford.

On the night of Jan. 19 the barn at the Roberts hotel, Provo, was burned; loss \$1400. The fire was started by a vagrant.

Two little sons of I. C. Thoreson, of Hyrum, Cache County, were interred in one grave on Jan. 20. They died from diphtheria.

A new ecclesiastical ward has been organized in Provo, taking in the northeastern part of the city. Alexander Gillespie was made Bishop.

The Union Stock Yards Company has been organized at Salt Lake City, with a capital of \$250,000. The yards are to be located in Davis County.

The Payson, Utah County, city council has granted a franchise to an electric lighting company, which proposes to light streets and dwellings by electricity.

On the night of January 21, the new First Ward meeting house at Ogden was destroyed by fire. The loss is \$8000; insurance \$5000. The origin of the fire is unknown.

At a ward re-union, given by the Seventies at Payson, on Jan. 20, over 600 persons sat down to supper. The evening's programme consisted of songs, recitations, speeches, music, etc.

The Provo chamber of commerce has offered a right of way for any railway company that will build a line from Park City down Provo Canyon to Provo, then to Payson and on to Eureka.

Jesse B. Barton, a well known Chicago attorney, has sued the *Salt Lake Tribune* for \$105,000 for libel, in its shameful abuse of him because it believed he had written articles speaking well of the "Mormons."

On Jan. 17, at Park City, W. F. Williams was accidentally thrown down the Ontario mine shaft sixty feet, and killed. At Ogden, the next day, a three-year old daughter of James M. Shupe was kicked by a horse, and killed.

On Jan. 21, at Ogden, George Mitchell, bar tender at the Broom hotel, was shot and killed by M. W. Dillon, a recent arrival from Wyoming, because Mitchell refused to drink with him. Dillon was under the influence of liquor.

The territorial secretary says there are seventy-three justices of the peace, ninety-seven constables and thirty-eight county officers in the Territory not qualified to hold their offices because they have not complied with the law relative to qualifying. Some were elected at the last election, and some at the election previous.

During the recent visit to Salt Lake City of Herr Sachs, post director of the German empire, that gentleman held an interview with Prof. Hirsching, and requested him to collect a line of Utah samples, representing her mineral wealth, and forward to him and to his superior officer, General Post Director Stephan, in order that they may thoroughly understand Utah's richness.

Even the Gentile city councilors of Salt Lake City are becoming disgusted at the constant misrepresentations of "Mormons" by publishers, and at their meeting on Jan. 27 unanimously passed the following resolutions respecting one unscrupulous magazine: "Whereas, the impression obtained by reading the articles bearing upon the Mormon question, published in the *Illustrated American*, is such as to unsettle the eastern public confidence in the soundness of the commercial interests of this city, Be it resolved, that a committee of this council be appointed to officially refute, by telegram or otherwise, the statement contained in the December 27th issue of the *Illustrated American*, to the effect that Utah is about to make war upon the United States; and be it further resolved that the committee be requested to obtain the co-operation of the territorial officers and the Salt Lake chamber of commerce in this refutation, and that the same be caused to be published in the *Illustrated American*."

In the latter part of January a party of capitalists made a visit to the Dickert sulphur beds, located in Millard County, Utah. The beds have been opened for nearly fifteen years, and large quantities of sulphur shipped from there, but the property has not been worked during the past year, owing to lawsuits involving the title to the property. A settlement having been arrived at, developments will be rapidly pushed, and the works will be running at their full capacity within the next sixty days. The reduction works, which include a smelter 200 feet in length and eight or nine other buildings, are being repaired, and a new refinery is being built. The formation is an interesting study; the fifteen-foot layer of sulphur being covered with about twenty-five feet of earth. Beneath the sulphur is an intense heat, boiling water often coming through the crevices and hot vapors pouring forth, making a veritable inferno. The parties brought back with them some very beautiful specimens taken from a crevice where the fumes had been pouring forth for a few months, showing a deposit of about two inches of pure flour of sulphur piled up in crystals. Other samples taken from the main bed show from 90 to 95 per cent. pure sulphur. In addition to the smelter and other buildings mentioned, a tramway running from the mines to the smelter, a distance of 2000 feet, has been built, and sixteen cottages and a schoolhouse have been provided for the workmen.